

SECRET

14 December 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Ambassador William H. Sullivan
Chairman, NSC Ad Hoc Committee
on Vietnam

SUBJECT : Mr. Fried's Defector

REFS : A. State Department Telegram 221514
B. Saigon Embassy Telegram 19292

25X1 1. Reference B, which my colleagues in Saigon helped to prepare, answers some of the questions you raised (in Reference A) with respect to Mr. Fried's sources and the identity of the alleged defector on whose account of the Communists' handling of US prisoners Fried's story is ultimately based. From additional correspondence with our Station, we have learned that the defector (or Chieu Hoi) in question rallied at least two years ago. Hence, regardless of when Mr. Fried obtained the information on which his story was based, the information itself (even if true) would have been more than two years old.

George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs